



# MARINA'S MESSAGE

SPECIAL UPDATE: NOVEMBER 2011

Dear Friends,

On Monday, the Milwaukee County Board adopted a fiscally and socially responsible 2012 Budget. We will meet on November 16 to take up any County Executive Vetoes. This week, I attended a press event to announce that over 5,000 people have signed the petition supporting bike and pedestrian access on the Hoan Bridge. There is an important meeting Monday, November 14 on this subject. The City of Milwaukee is in need of bilingual poll-workers for the upcoming Spring Elections. Lastly, I thank the readers for choosing me for the third time as the "Best Supervisor." It is truly an honor to continue serving my community.

*Marina D.*

## Milwaukee County Board Committees

Parks, Energy, & Environment

Intergovernmental Relations

Transportation, Public Works & Transit

Chair, County Board Information Technology

Milwaukee County Commission on Aging

Lakefront Development Advisory Commission

Milwaukee County Research Park Board

## Community Memberships

Salvation Army Advisory Board

South Side Business Club

Sierra Club

Assn. of Marquette University Women

Bay View Neighborhood Association

American Council of Young Political Leaders

Bay View Historical Society

South Shore Park Watch

Bay View Lions Club

Inter-Organizational Council of Bay View

Bay View High School Alumni Association

9 to 5, Nat'l Association of Working Women

South Side Scholarship Foundation

Board of Directors, Emerge Wisconsin

UMOS Community Service Block Grant  
Advisory Committee

## Marina in our Community

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Over 5,000 Sign Petition to Bike the Hoan

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County Executive Abele Makes Sustainability a Priority

City of Milwaukee Seeks Spanish Speaking Poll Workers for 2012

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WisDOT Announces Feasibility Study Results for Hoan Bridge

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## Sup. Dimitrijevic Named "Best Supervisor" by Shepherd Express

Milwaukee County Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, who represents Milwaukee's near South Side and Bay View neighborhoods, has been named the Best Supervisor in this week's issue of the Shepherd Express. It is the third time she has received this readers' choice award since being re-elected in 2008.

"This award means a lot to me. I thank the readers of the Shepherd Express for this honor. I work hard to serve my district and improve our quality of life in Milwaukee County," said Supervisor Dimitrijevic. "I am very proud to have had a leadership role in the Green Print and the Domestic Partnership Resolutions. Sustainability and equality are important parts of my vision here at the County Board."

The Shepherd Express wrote, "This young but tested county supervisor scored another victory this summer, when she helped to lead the successful fight for domestic partnership benefits for Milwaukee County



workers. That follows on the heels of her cost-saving and smart Green Print plan, which has reduced the county's greenhouse gas emissions and saved water and energy, too. Dimitrijevic has also formed a political action committee to help progressive candidates get elected to office, and we have no doubt that she'll be making a play for the chairmanship of the board when that position becomes available again."

You can view it online [here](#).

## Over 5,000 Sign Petition to Bike the Hoan

In accordance with policy set forth by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), as well as state laws and policies, the Wisconsin DOT is evaluating the feasibility of adding a shared-use path to the Hoan Bridge (Hoan Bridge) as part of the rehabilitation project expected to begin in 2013.

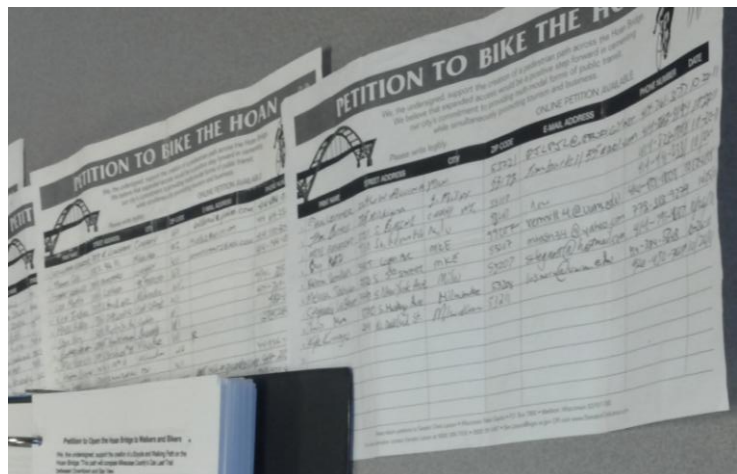
While the project currently does not include the addition of a shared-use path to the bridge, guidelines recommend investigating the feasibility of adding a shared-use path to projects involving a bridge re-deck.

WisDOT standards require that the shared-use path on a high-speed facility be separated by a barrier. In addition, the study also considers safe access and network connectivity to trails. A review of existing facilities indicates that a new shared-use path would have logical connection points to Milwaukee trail facilities and municipal streets at the north and south ends of the bridge.

WisDOT has examined several methods of integrating a shared-use path on the Hoan Bridge, and identified five feasible alternatives. For more information on the feasibility study, including the alternatives, click [HERE](#).



There has been a large community push to add a lane to the Hoan, a petition with over 5,000 signatures is available online at [bikethehoan.com](http://bikethehoan.com)



## Milwaukee County Board Adopts 2012 County Budget

Hundreds of county residents spoke to us at our public hearing regarding the services important to them. On Monday, we adopted a 2012 County Budget that is both socially and fiscally responsible. Well under the rate of inflation, we restored funding to the Arts, Parks, County-Wide Paramedic Program, Sheriff's Department, and lowered the increase on Paratransit fares for the disabled.

Under the adopted budget, the 2012 tax levy is \$275,805,499, an increase of 2.3% over the 2011 levy of \$269,554,701. Under this scenario, the owner of an average City of Milwaukee home would see the County portion (17%) of their property tax bill rise by approximately \$3.84. For more information, including the listing of the votes taken by supervisors, please click [here](#) to view the news release for the budget adoption meeting.

## Supervisor Dimitrijevic's Wellness Plan Adopted

Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic's S.T.E.P. Up (Stronger Team through Employee Participation) employee wellness plan was approved at the County Board's budget adoption meeting. The plan is aimed at encouraging employees to pursue healthier lifestyle choices while lowering health care costs.

"I thank the County Board for making this smart, creative investment. It will pay large dividends in the future. Considering the budget challenges we face for 2012, there's no better time than now to reverse the trend of rising health care costs," Supervisor Dimitrijevic said. "We are taking a page out of success stories from both the public and private sector. The time is now for Milwaukee County to credit our employees who want to improve their health. This is a true team approach."

In the typical wellness structure, employees participate in an annual screening and develop a plan to help them stay or get healthy. For example, depending on which risks are identified, participants could be referred to a smoking cessation program, be given a diet/exercise program, or be advised to see a doctor.

Health care costs are driven by a handful of diseases — including hypertension, diabetes and heart disease — that can be managed or prevented. But the required lifestyle adjustments are easy to put off, especially if the problem isn't detected. The STEP Up



plan rewards employees for their participation and includes a surcharge for employees who decline to participate or who smoke.

Similar initiatives are already used by local public and private sector employers, including the City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee Public Schools, Northwestern Mutual and Quad/Graphics.



## County Executive Makes Sustainability a Priority

Supervisor Dimitrijevic is pleased that a full-time Sustainability Director has been included in the 2012 County Budget.

Although the Green Print was enacted more than four years ago, a dedicated Sustainability Director for Milwaukee County was never fully implemented by then-County Executive Scott Walker. Many other counties and municipalities, including the City of Milwaukee, have had similar full-time sustainability directors in place.

"I appreciate that the County Executive for including this position in his proposal, and I thank the County Board for keeping that language in the budget. A dedicated Sustainability Director will help us identify additional grant opportunities and cost-savings measures to benefit County taxpayers," Supervisor Dimitrijevic said. "We have seen great savings thanks to the efforts of our current half-time sustainability engineer. I'm excited to see what kinds of results a full-time staff person will produce."

The Green Print, unanimously approved by the County Board and signed into law in 2007, set the stage for



Milwaukee County to become more environmentally responsible. So far, the Green Print has prompted more than \$10 million in energy savings upgrades at facilities in Milwaukee County, reducing the

County's annual electricity consumption by \$800,000 and its water consumption by 100 million gallons per year.

In addition, Milwaukee County has received over \$600,000 in grants and Federal Stimulus funds to implement portions of our Green Print since 2008. This will lead to even more opportunities to reduce our environmental footprint, save tax dollars and preserve assets for future generations.

## City of Milwaukee Seeks Spanish Speaking Poll Workers for 2012

The Milwaukee Election Commission recently received notification from the United States Department of Justice – Voting Rights Section that the City of Milwaukee is subject to the language assistance provisions of Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act. In addition to providing all voting materials in Spanish, the Election Commission must provide bilingual poll workers at those polling sites identified as having a large concentration of Hispanic voters.

An analysis of census data and Election Commission registered voter data indicate that the 34 wards in the 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Aldermanic Districts contain the highest concentration of Hispanic voters. Until the Government Accountability Board assigns voters to their new wards and aldermanic districts as a result of redistricting, the Election Commission cannot determine the exact number of bilingual poll workers

needed to be in compliance with Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act. The Election Commission has, however, estimated that 100 bilingual poll workers will be needed to cover the 34 wards if those participating choose to work a full day (6:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m.) or 200 workers if a half day is preferred (6:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. or 1:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.).

All workers must attend ONE of several two-hour training sessions which are tentatively scheduled for the week of January 30 – February 3, 2012. Workers will be compensated for attending training as well as serving on Election Days.

Please forward this request and if you know of anyone that may be interested, please have them contact Oscar Tovar at [oscar.tovar@milwaukee.gov](mailto:oscar.tovar@milwaukee.gov) or (414) 286-2200.

For more information, click [here](#).

# Save the Date

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## Salvation Army Milwaukee County Red Kettle Christmas Kickoff

Everyone is invited to celebrate Christmas with The Salvation Army at the Red Kettle Kickoff. This event kicks off the bell ringing season and is fun for the entire family.

Enjoy musical performances by The Salvation Army Brass Ensemble and the MPS Alumni & Homeless Choir, special guest appearance by radio sportscaster & former Green Bay Packer Gary Ellerson, Salvation Army Mascot Captain Food Fight and 'Tom Burgermeister's Close Up Magic and Sleight of Hand Artist will entertain children of all ages, and adults too. Also look for free hot cocoa, refreshments, food and caricature artist drawings for every guest.

The event is free and open to the entire community. The first 100 guests will receive tickets to the 2011 Holiday Folk Fair, The Salvation Army 2011 Brass Band Christmas Carol cd and a chance to enter the drawing for autographed photos of Former NFL Green Bay Packer Gary Ellerson!



# Giving Hope Today

Saturday, November 12th 4-7:00 p.m.

MPS Alumni and Homeless Choir 4-5 p.m.

Program 5:00-5:25 pm

The Salvation Army Big Red Kettle Lighting Ceremony  
5:30 p.m.

Wisconsin State Fair Grounds Near Pettit Ice Center

Enter at Gate 6 south of the freeway on 84th Street

Parking is free

## WisDOT Announces Feasibility Study Results for Hoan Bridge

**WisDOT has scheduled a public meeting:**

**November 14th, 2011 from 5-7 p.m.**

**WisDOT downtown office building**

**1001 West St. Paul Avenue, Milwaukee, WI**

WisDOT will review the draft feasibility study report of installing a shared-use path on the Hoan Bridge.

For more information click [\*\*HERE\*\*](#).